

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1937

UNCLAS MEXICO 11198

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJECT: CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO:

PRATT, PEGGY ANN

REF STATE 194199

1. CONSULAR ACCESS AND VISITATION: EMBASSY LEARNED OF ARREST THROUGH NEWSPAPER ARTICLE OF DEC. 19, 1973. ARREST REPORT TO DEPT DATED JAN. 3, 1974, STATE QUOTE CONSULAR OFFICER PLANS PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS UNQUOTE. ARREST REPORT HAS HAND-WRITTEN NOTE DATED JAN. 23 SAYING QUOTE LAWYERS LIST AND INFO SHEET TO BE DELIVERED BY MR. SALKEN, UNITARIAN MIN. THIS WEEK UQNUOTE. NOTE IN EMBASSY FILE DATED FEB. 28, 1974, INDICATES THAT SHE DID NOT APPEAR FOR INTERVIEW. OTHER PRISONERS SAID THAT SHE WAS IN COURT. IT APPEARS PRATT WAS FIRST VISITED BY CONOFFS MAY 9, 1974, AT WHICH TIME SHE COMPLAINED OF BLEEDING DIARRHEA. FILE NOTE DATED JULY 12 INDICATES PRATT COMPLAINED OF LACK OF EMBASSY CONTACT. COM-. PLAINT APPEARS COMPLETELY JUSTIFIED. FILES SHOW PRATT HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED BY CONOFF ONLY THREE TIMES SINCE JULY 12, 1974, MOST RECENTLY ON AUGUST 29, 1975. SHE IS KNOWN TO HAVE OTHER OUTSIDE CONTACTS AND IN VIEW EMBASSY'S INITIAL SORRY VISITATION RECORD IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT SHE MAY HAVE LITTLE TO SAY TO CONOFFS. SHE DID TELEPHONE ON NOV. 12 TO REQUEST

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ASSISTANCE IN RELAYING MONEY FROM PARENTS FOR MEDICAL

TREATMENT. CONOFF TOOK MONEY TO PRISON NOV. 28,
BUT PRATT WAS AT LECUMBERRI FOR CONJUGAL VISIT.

2. MISTREATMENT IN PRISON: IN LETTER DATED JAN. 2,
1975, FROM PRISONER DIANE ODERMANN TO CONGRESSMAN
STARK, THERE IS MENTION OF PRATT BEING HEARD TO
SCREAM DURING COURSE OF INTERNAL SEARCH PRIOR TO BEING
PERMITTED CONJUGAL VISIT AT LECUMBERRI PRISON ON
DEC. 30, 1974. SEVERAL PRISONERS COMPLAINED
OF THIS PARTICULAR EVENT, OWING TO THE DISGUSTING,
UNSANTARY AND BRUTAL MANNER IN WHICH IT WAS CARRIED
OUT. USPHS DOCTOR ACCOMPANIED CONOFF TO WOMEN'S
PRISON DAY AFTER SEARCH AND EXAMINED THOSE PRISONERS
WHO DESIRED TO BE EXAMINED.

3. PROLONGED DETENTION: PRATT'S NAME WAS INCLUDED,
WITH HER CONSENT, IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE DATED MAY 20,
1975, PROTESTING DETENTION FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR
WITHOUT RESOLUTION OF HER CASE. NO REPLY WAS
RECEIVED WITH RESPECT TO HER. ON NEXT VISIT,
CONOFF WILL MAKE POINT OF SEEING HER TO DETERMINE
WHETHER SHE WISHES MATTER BROUGHT TO ATTENTION
OF JUDGE IN CASE.
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